

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.114(c), Applicant submits herewith a copy of an Affidavit under 37 C.F.R. 1.132 dated October 21, 2002. As stated in the Advisory Action mailed November 29, 2002, the Affidavit has not yet been considered. As discussed with at least Examiner Lobo, Applicant respectfully traverses the §112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 1-20. In addition to reasons that were given in the interview and reasons given in previous Office Action responses, the Affidavit is included herewith to further support the assertion that as understood by those of ordinary skill in the art, the term "coating," as set out in Applicant's claims, refers to a resistive film. The resistive film or coating is a type of electrically conductive material such as carbon, graphite, carbon fiber, mylar, or other metalized film. As stated in the specification, the "coating [is] an absorber-like material, in various shapes, over any type of substrate [that] is used to control the electrical properties of the matching network hybrid EMC absorber" (Application, page 10, lines 13-14). For at least these reasons, Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw the §112 rejection of Applicant's claims.

Applicant respectfully traverses the §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20 as being anticipated by Ellam. Ellam fails to teach, disclose, or otherwise suggest a matching network hybrid electro-magnetic compatibility absorber with a coating that covers a predetermined portion of the absorber's surface as recited in at least independent claim 9. For at least this reason, Applicant urges the Examiner to withdraw the §102(b) rejection of the above noted claims.

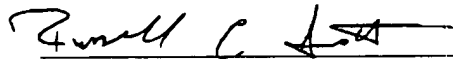
For Examiner convenience, a clean copy of the pending claims is included in Attachment A herein. The claims have not been amended.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing remarks and for various other reasons, Applicant submits that claims 1-20 are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Preliminary Amendment and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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